STATE OF CONNECTICUT

SNAP Employment and Training Plan

Federal Fiscal Year 2018

8/15/2017

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Section A: Cover Page and Authorized Signatures

State: Connecticut

State Agency: Department of Social Services

Federal FY: 2018

Date: August 15th, 2017

Primary Contacts:

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Certified By:

Signature of Authorized Person>

State Agency Director (or Commissioner)

14/17 Date

Certified By:

<Signature of Authorized Person>

State Agency Fiscal Reviewer

8/14 Date

Section B: Assurance Statements Check box at right to indicate you have read and understand each statement.	
I. The State agency is accountable for the content of the State E&T plan and will provide oversight of any sub-grantees.	
II. The State agency is fiscally responsible for E&T activities funded under the plan and is liable for repayment of unallowable costs.	□✓
III. State education costs will not be supplanted with Federal E&T funds.	
IV. Cash or in-kind donations from other non-Federal sources have not been claimed or used as a match or reimbursement under any other Federal program.	
V. If in-kind goods and services are part of the budget, only public in-kind services are included. No private in-kind goods or services are claimed.	□-/
VI. Documentation of State agency costs, payments, and donations for approved E&T activities are maintained by the State agency and available for USDA review and audit.	□✓
VII. Contracts are procured through appropriate procedures governed by State procurement regulations.	□✓
VIII. Program activities are conducted in compliance with all applicable Federal laws, rules, and regulations including Civil Rights and OMB regulations governing cost issues.	□✓
IX. E&T education activities directly enhance the employability of the participants; there is a direct link between the education activities and jobreadiness.	□✓
X. Program activities and expenses are reasonable and necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of SNAP E&T.	□✓
XI. The E&T Program is implemented in a manner that is responsive to the special needs of American Indians on Reservations. State shall: consult on an ongoing basis about portions of State Plan which affect them; submit for comment all portions of the State Plan that affect the ITO; if appropriate and the extent practicable, include ITO suggestions in State plan. (For States with Indian Reservations only)	□✓

By signing on the cover page of this document, the State agency Director (or Commissioner) and financial representative certify that the above assurances are met.

Acronyms

Below is a list of common acronyms utilized within this plan:

DSS Department of Social Services

ABAWD Able-Bodied Adult without Dependents

E&T Employment and Training

FFY Federal Fiscal Year

FNS Food and Nutrition Service

SNAP Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

TANF Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

TFA Temporary Family Assistance

Section C: State E&T Program, Operations and Policy Overview

I. Summary of the SNAP E&T Program

- Mission
- Scope of services
- Administrative structure of program

The Connecticut Department of Social Services is guided by a shared belief in human potential. The agency's mission is to increase the security and well-being of Connecticut individuals, families, and communities. Our vision is to become a world class service organization. In Connecticut, the Department of Social Services (DSS) is the agency responsible for administering the SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) program. The program is job driven, skills based, and voluntary. It is a program built around partnerships designed to help participants transition to self-sufficiency. When SNAP E&T participants successfully complete vocational training programs, they receive a post-secondary credential which makes them more attractive to employers. Although the program is voluntary and available to all SNAP recipients who are able to work upon completion, the goal is to serve work registrants. The program serves both unemployed and under employed individuals.

Partners currently providing E&T services are:

Capital Community College
Asnuntuck Community College
Gateway Community College
Northwestern CT Community College
Three Rivers Community College
Housatonic Community College
Quinebaug Valley Community College
Naugatuck Valley Community College
Middlesex Community College
Goodwin College
Opportunities Industrialization Center
Connecticut Center for Arts and Technology
Community Culinary School of Northwestern CT

In order to respond to the CT economy, short term vocational programs are approved based on Labor Market Index (LMI) data provided by the Department of Labor. Programs must show positive job growth based on the Department of Labor information.

IN FY18 we will continue to support the 50% reimbursement program with two Public Assistance Consultants within the SNAP Division dedicating 90% of their work effort towards advancing the SNAP Employment and Training program.

Section C: State E&T Progra	m, Operations and Policy Overview	
	Salaries 163,481.00 Fringes 132,983.00 Indirect 46,800.00 Total \$343,264.00	
	In FY18 we will continue to support new and existing partners with 100% funds.	
 II. Program Changes New initiatives Significant changes in State policy or funding 	with 100% funds. SNAP E&T expansion efforts will continue in FY18. DSS is adding Norwalk Community College to our list of service providers and will also begin supporting associate degree	
	on-site job developer at Capital Community College. In FFY18 DSS will evaluate the success of the pilot by comparing the percentage of E&T job developer pilot participants with employment to the overall average of all E&T participants with employment. If successful, DSS will look to expand the pilot in FFY19. In FY18 we are adding Job Search Training as a component to our program.	

Section C: State E&T Program	n, Operations and Policy Overview
III. Workforce Development System General description In-demand and emerging industries and occupations Connection to SNAP E&T, components offered through such system, career pathways, and credentials available	SNAP E&T is a growing part of the state's comprehensive workforce development system. SNAP E&T in Connecticut relies on Labor Market information (LMI) to determine which occupations to support. Connecticut's unified WIOA plan includes information about SNAP E&T. WIOA core partners were advised about SNAP E&T as part of the WIOA service delivery workgroup. DSS is committed to notifying WIOA partners when new E&T service providers are added. All E&T partners have been asked to refer their participants to American Job Centers, aka one stop centers, for assistance with finding employment as needed.
IV. Other Employment Programs TANF, General Assistance, etc. Coordination efforts, if applicable	SNAP E&T is only available to SNAP recipients who are not receiving TANF. SNAP recipients who are receiving TANF must participate in Connecticut's TANF work program known as Jobs First Employment Services (JFES) There are many employment related services available through community based and volunteer programs offered by both private and public agencies. SNAP E&T partners will make appropriate referrals. SNAP recipients who are assessed and found not yet academically prepared for vocational programs are referred to Adult Basic Education which is an entitlement in CT. Adult basic education will provide ESL and GED as needed.
V. Consultation with Tribal Organizations • Description of consultation efforts • Services available through E&T VI. State Options	DSS will consult with tribal organizations in FFY18 Consultation will include information about educational opportunities at Three Rivers Community College which is in close proximity to both of Connecticut's tribal organizations.
Select options the State is applying	 □ Serving zero-benefit households □ Serving mandatory participants only □ Serving mandatory and voluntary participants X Voluntary participants only
 VII. Screening Process Process for identifying whether work 	The first determination made by DSS eligibility staff is whether an applicant is subject to the SNAP work requirements. Individuals who are not exempt are work

registrant should be	registered. The program is voluntary so all SNAP recipients,				
referred to E&T	not receiving TANF (TFA) receive information about SNAP				
referred to E&1	E&T. SNAP recipients and applicants learn about SNAP E&T				
	at application, renewal and when they visit a DSS field office				
	or the DSS webpage. They receive a list of E&T partners w				
3	contact information. Interested SNAP recipients are assessed				
	academically by partners and offered programs or referrals.				
	Eligibility verification has been streamlined by DSS providing				
	a secure daily file of all non TANF (TFA) SNAP recipients				
	between the ages of 16 and 60. E&T partners are then able to				
	place a recipient in SNAP E&T. In addition eligible SNAP				
7777 C	recipients may self-initiate with any approved E&T provider.				
VIII. Conciliation Process (if	N/A				

conciliation					
• Length					
X. Disqualification Policy	SNAP E&T is voluntary so SNAP clients are not disqualified				
• Length of	for not participating. However, nonexempt individuals who do				
disqualification period	not comply with the SNAP work requirements without good				
Sanction applies to	cause are penalized as follows:				
individual or entire	First Occurrence: 90 days				
household	Second Occurrence: 180 days				
	Third or Subsequent Occurrence: 180 days				
	Sanction applies to: An individual and follows the individual if				
	they move to a different SNAP household. Good cause may be				
	established by one or more of the following: circumstances				
	beyond the individual's control such as but not limited to,				
	illness, illness of another household member, emergency, availability of transportation and/or conditions of employment				
	such as but not limited to discrimination on the basis of age,				
	sex or color, working without being paid on schedule or				
	unsuitable employment.				
K. Participant	Books, clothing, course registration fees, dependent care,				
Reimbursements	gasoline, licensing and bonding fees, personal safety items,				
 List all participant 	training materials, transportation and uniforms. We will also				
reimbursements (or	reimburse the following expenses if needed for a job or to				
link to State	complete an E&T program; Automobile repairs, background				
policy/handbook)	checks, drug tests, equipment, finger printing, medical				
Reimbursement cap	services, test fees, tools, union dues and vision needs.				
 Payment method (in 	The state of Connecticut has limited funds set aside for				
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	The state of Connecticut has infinited fullds set aside for				

Section C: State E&T Progra	m, Operations and Policy Overview
advance or as reimbursement)	participant reimbursements. The reimbursement amount is communicated to E&T partners at the beginning of each FFY and included in partner contracts. Expenditures for allowable participant expenses above and beyond the reimbursement allocation are allowable through the 50% funding stream.
	All E&T partners have been reminded to make certain that E&T participants are being informed and reimbursed for allowable participant expenses.
 Work Registrant Data Methodology used to count work registrants 	SNAP household members who are not exempt are work registered at the time of application and renewal. The work requirements are explained to individuals by eligibility staff during the interview.
	DSS' new integrated eligibility management system, ImpaCT has a reporting feature that identifies the number of unduplicated work registrants.
	The report is based on data entered into our eligibility system by DSS eligibility staff at application, renewal, and interim change based on the circumstances.
	These counts are not duplicated. Registrants are counted once per year.
XII. Outcome Reporting Data Source and Methodology	All participants are voluntary. The Department gets program participation data from the E&T providers via a web based data collection system. This system collects participant
Data sourcesMethodology	demographic information required in the Agriculture Act of 2014 including high school diploma or the equivalent, ABAWDs, speaks English as a second language, gender, age (age ranges will be queried), and program status (complete vs. incomplete). In addition to demographic information the system identifies which component a participant is engaged in. It also captures the number and percentage of participants who complete a program and gain a recognized credential.
	DSS has entered into a data share agreement with the CT Department of Labor to gain access to Quarterly Wage Records which will allow us to meet the national reporting measures including the number of E&T participants and former participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after completion of participation in E&T, the number of E&T participants and former participants

Section C: State E&T Program, Operations and Policy Overview				
	who are in unsubsidized employment during the fourth quarter after completion of participation in E&T, and the median quarterly earnings of all E&T participants and former participants who are in unsubsidized employment during the second quarter after completion of participation in E&T.			
	In addition to the enhanced reporting requirements included in the act, DSS reports outcomes from the E&T program to the CT General Assembly each January.			

Section D: Pledge to Serve All At-Risk ABAWDs (if applicable) State agencies wishing to receive pledge funds should identify a desire to pledge and provide the following information:					
II. Information about the size & needs of ABAWD population	N/A				
III. The counties/areas where pledge services will be offered	N/A				
IV. Estimated cost to fulfill pledge	N/A				
V. Description of State agency capacity to serve at-risk ABAWDs	N/A				
VI. Management controls in place to meet pledge requirements	N/A				
VII. Description of education, training and workfare components State agency will offer to meet ABAWD work requirements	N/A				

Section E: E&T Component Detail

Non-Education, Non-Work Components

Job Search	Enhances the jo	ob readiness of 1			
Geographic area	techniques, increasing job search motivation and boosting self-confidence. Target audience (e.g., homeless, re- entry population, ABAWDS) Anticipated monthly participants (unduplicated count) Anticipated monthly cost* Provider(s) Reporting measure(s) if > 100 participants per year				
Norwich and New London	Unemployed and under employed SNAP recipients	1	\$53.00	OIC of New London	N/A

^{*} Limit anticipated monthly cost to administrative costs only. Do not include participant reimbursements.

Education Components

Vocational Training					
Description	Market Inform in Connecticut web design 25. medical assista phlebotomy 9.2 assessed by each outcome. Each SNAP coordinating their value barriers as need to the content of the coordination of the coordinatio	ation (LMI). Cu include the follo 4%, massage th nt 17%, EMT 1 2% and nail tech ch partner in are partner does prators at each par way through the	errent LMI for the owing which are erapy 19.8%, ver 1.2%, medical beautiful as of reading an evide case management ovide case management and medical certificat	s supported by D ne fastest growing e all supported by eterinary technici pilling and coding icipants are acad and math to ensure agement to varying with participants to ake referrals or a e programs, cred	g occupations of SNAP E&T an 17.5%, g 10%, emically a positive ng degrees. so help ddress
Geographic area	Target audience (e.g., homeless, ABAWDS)	Anticipated monthly participants (unduplicated count)	Anticipated monthly cost*	Provider(s)	Reporting measure(s) if > 100 participants per year
Statewide	Unemployed and under employed SNAP recipients	118	\$347	Capital Community College, Asnuntuck Community College,	The number and percentage of SNAP E&T participants in a vocational training

Vocational T	raining			
Vocational T	raining		Gateway Community College, Northwestern CT Community College, Three Rivers Community College, Housatonic Community College, Quinebaug Valley Community College, Naugatuck Valley Community College, Naugatuck Valley Community College, Nowalk Community College, Middlesex Community College, Middlesex Community College, Onortunities	program that is intended to lead to a credential. The number and percentage of participants who complete the program and earn a credential.
			Opportunities Industrializati on Center, Connecticut Center for	
			Arts and Technology, Community Culinary School of Northwestern CT	
* I imit antiging	L ited monthly cost to	 anta anti- Danat	l in aleeda mantiainan	

^{*} Limit anticipated monthly cost to administrative costs only. Do not include participant reimbursements.

Work Components

Comparable Workfare						
Description		Assists ABAWDs seeking to fulfill the work requirement by gaining experience through volunteer work at a public or private non-profit agency				
Geographic area	Target audience (e.g., homeless, ABAWDS)	Anticipated monthly participants (unduplicated count)	Anticipated monthly cost*	Provider(s)	Reporting measure(s) if > 100 participants per year	
Statewide	ABAWDs	1	0	N/A	N/A	

^{*} Limit anticipated monthly cost to administrative costs only. Do not include participant reimbursements.

Section F: Estimated Participant Levels I. Anticipated number of work registrants in the	
State during the Federal FY (unduplicated count):	106,410
II. Estimated Number of Work Registrants Exempt	100,110
from E&T	106,410
List below planned State option exemption	
categories and the number of work registrants	
expected to be included in each during the Federal	
FY	
1,	
2.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	<u> </u>
(Add more rows as needed)	
III. Percent of all work registrants exempt from	
E&T (line II/line I)	100%
IV. Anticipated number of mandatory E&T	·············
participants (line I – line II)	0
V. Anticipated number of voluntary E&T	
participants	1,430

VI. Anticipated number of ABAWDs in the State during the Federal FY	172,361
VII. Anticipated number of ABAWDs in waived areas of the State during the Federal FY	169,790
VIII. Anticipated number of ABAWDs to be exempted under the State's 15 percent ABAWD exemption allowance during the Federal FY	1,807
IX. Number of potential at—risk ABAWDs expected in the State during the Federal FY (line VI—(lines VII+VIII))	764

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Section G: Summary	Nature of Contract		Total		
Partner/ Contractor	(Consulting, Data Analysis, E&T Services, Other)	Total Admin Costs	Participant Reimbursements Costs	Total Cost	% of Total Budget
Quinebaug Valley Community College	E&T Services	109,910.00	421.00	110,542.00	2%
Naugatuck Valley Community College	E&T Services	284,606.00	421.00	285,238.00	5%
Capital Community College	E&T Services	1,512,194.00	421.00	1,512,826.00	26%
Housatonic Community College	E&T Services	572,600.00	421.00	573,232.00	10%
Northwestern CT Community college	E&T Services	162,268.00	421.00	162,900.00	3%
Gateway community College	E&T Services	276,772.00	421.00	277,404.00	5%
Asnuntuck Community college	E&T Services	844,140.00	421.00	844,772.00	14%
Three Rivers Community College	E&T Services	195,416.00	421.00	196,048.00	3%
Middlesex Community College	E&T Services	85,375.00	421.00	86,007.00	1%
Norwalk Community College	E&T Services	288,000.00	421.00	288,632.00	5%
Goodwin College	E&T Services	1,036,250.00	421.00	1,036,882.00	17%
OIC of New London	E&T Services	286,476.00	421.00	287,108.00	5%
Community Culinary	E&T Services	55,700.00	421.00	56,332.00	1%
ConnCAT	E&T Services	207,000.00	421.00	207,632.00	5%

For each partner/contractor that receives more than 10% of the E&T operating budget, complete and attach a Contractor Detail Addendum.

Section H: Contractor Detail Addendum

Partner/Contract Name	Capital Community College				
Monitoring and communication with contractor (s)	Semiannual partner meetings are held to discuss best practices and policy changes as needed. All contractors must enter participant data into a web based application which includes monthly case notes. Quarterly invoices are reviewed for accuracy and management evaluations are conducted annually.				
Role of Contractor	Contractors conduct assessments to ensure that participants are academically prepared for their chosen program and to identify barriers to participation. Provides vocational training programs. Student participation is tracked within the web based application.				
Timeline	Start	Annual/Ongoing	End	Annual/Ongoing	
Description of Activities/Services	Capital Community College offers 12 short term vocational programs which includes training in allied health and administrative fields.				
Funding	Third party reimbursement partnership, with additional 100% grant funds provided to support the program. Contactor must identify nonfederal funds eligible for a 50% reimbursement.				
Evaluation		T contractor is monitored matic components.	annually	Reviews include fiscal and	

Partner/Contract Name	Asnuntuck Community College				
Monitoring and communication with contractor (s)	Semiannual partner meetings are held to discuss best practices and policy changes as needed. All contractors must enter participant data into a web based				
Contractor (s)	applica Quarte	application which includes monthly case notes. Quarterly invoices are reviewed for accuracy and management evaluations are conducted annually.			
Role of Contractor	Contractors conduct assessments to ensure that participants are academically prepared for their chosen program and to identify barriers to participation. Provides vocational training programs. Student participation is tracked within the web based application.				
Timeline		Annual/Ongoing		Annual/Ongoing	
Description of Activities/Services	Asnuntuck Community College offers 14 short term vocational programs.				
Funding	Third party reimbursement partnership, with additional 100% grant funds provided to support the program. Contactor must identify nonfederal funds eligible for a 50% reimbursement.				
Evaluation	1	E&T contractor is monitored an ogrammatic components	mually.	Reviews include fiscal	

Partner/Contract Name	Goodwin College			
Monitoring and communication with contractor (s)	Semiannual partner meetings are held to discuss best practices and policy changes as needed. All contractors must enter participant data into a web based application which includes monthly case notes. Quarterly invoices are reviewed for accuracy and management evaluations are conducted annually.			
Role of Contractor	Contractors conduct assessments to ensure that participants are academically prepared for their chosen program and to identify barriers to participation. Provides vocational training programs. Student participation is tracked within the web based application.			
Timeline	Start	Annual/Ongoing		Annual/Ongoing
Description of Activities/Services	Goodwin College offers 6 short term vocational programs.			
Funding	Third party reimbursement partnership. Contactor must identify nonfederal funds eligible for a 50% reimbursement.			

Partner/Contract Name	Goodwin College
Evaluation	Each E&T contractor is monitored annually. Reviews include fiscal
	and programmatic components

Partner/Contract	Housato	onic Community College		
Name				
Monitoring and	Semian	nual partner meetings are he	eld to dis	scuss best practices and
communication with	policy c	hanges as needed.		
contractor (s)	All cont	tractors must enter participa	ınt data i	nto a web based application
	which in	ncludes monthly case notes.	•	
	Quarter	ly invoices are reviewed for	r accurac	y and management
	evaluati	ons are conducted annually	•	
Role of Contractor	Contrac	tors conduct assessments to	ensure	that participants are
	academ	ically prepared for their cho	sen prog	gram and to identify barriers
	to participation. Provides vocational training programs.			
	Student	participation is tracked with	hin the v	veb based application.
Timeline	Start	Annual/Ongoing	End	Annual/Ongoing
Description of	Havasta	mio Community Callege of		
Description of		onic Community College of		
Activities/Services		cational programs which rai	nge in le	ngth from two months to
 ·	two years.			
Funding	Third party reimbursement partnership, with additional 100% grant			
	funds provided to support the program. Contactor must identify			
	nonfederal funds eligible for a 50% reimbursement.			
Evaluation	Each E	&T contractor is monitored	annually	. Reviews include fiscal and
	program	matic components.	-	
	-	^		

Section I: Operating Budget and Budget Narrative

	State cost	Federal cost	Total
I. Direct Costs:			
a) Salary/Wages	***	163,481	163,481
b) Fringe Benefits* Approved		122 092	122 092
Fringe Benefit Rate Used 81%		132,983	132,983
c) Contractual Costs (Admin	2,720,667	3,196,040	5,916,707
Only)	2,720,007	3,190,040	3,910,707
d) Non-capital Equipment and			
Supplies			
e) Materials		-	
f) Travel		5000	5000
g) Building/Space			1
h) Equipment & Other Capital			
Expenditures			
Total Direct Costs			
II. Indirect Costs:			
Indirect Costs*Approved Indirect		46,900	46,000
Cost Rate Used:%		46,800	46,800
III. In-kind Contribution			
State in-kind contribution			
Total Administrative Cost	2.720.667	2 544 204	6 264 071
(Total of items I, II, and III)	2,720,667	3,544,304	6,264,971
100 Percent Federal E&T Grant		823,637	823,637
50 percent Additional	2.720.667	2 720 667	5 441 224
Administrative Expenditure	2,720,667	2,720,667	5,441,334
IV. Participant Reimbursement			
(State plus Federal):		•	·
a) Dependent Care (including	500	500	1 000
contractual costs)	500	500	1,000
b) Transportation & Other Costs	2.447	2 447	4 904
(including contractual costs)	2,447	2,447	4,894
c) State Agency Cost for			
Dependent Care Services		Control of the Contro	
Total 50 percent Participant	2.047	2.047	5 904
Reimbursement Expenses	2,947	2,947	5,894
V. Total Costs	2,723,614	3,547,251	6,270,865

^{*} Attach an approval letter from the cognizant agency identifying the indirect cost rate being used.

Section J: Budget Narrative and Justification

Item	Narrative
I. Direct Costs:	
a) Salary/Wages	Two Public Assistance Consultants @ .90 FTE Salaries \$163,481
b) Fringe Benefits* Approved Fringe Benefit Rate Used81%	Two Public Assistance Consultants @ .90 FTE Fringe Benefits \$132,982
c) Contractual Costs	Total state and federal combined cost is \$5,916,707. Contractual costs are for E&T services, vocational training programs, and associated administrative expenses.
d) Non-capital Equipment and Supplies	
e) Materials	
f) Travel	\$5000.00 set aside for E&T training opportunities in other states, in state trainings for contractors, and USDA led training opportunities.
g) Building/Space	
h) Equipment & Other Capital Expenditures	
II. Indirect Costs:	\$46,800 for two public assistance consultants
III. State In-kind Contribution	
IV. Participant Reimbursements	
a) Dependent Care	\$1000 set aside for dependent care reimbursement
b) Transportation & Other Costs	\$4894 has been earmarked for transportation and other participant reimbursements
c) State Agency Cost for Dependent Care Services	